



***ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th, 2023***

The ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION convened in a REGULAR meeting on *TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th, 2023, at AUSTIN CITY HALL - BOARDS & COMMISSIONS ROOM #1101, 301 W. 2ND STREET in AUSTIN, TEXAS.*

Chair HANNAH HUANG called the ASIAN AMERICAN QUALITY-OF-LIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING to order at 6:06pm CST.

Commissioners in Attendance:

***Lily Trieu
Nayer Sikder
Padmini Jambulapati***

Commissioners in Attendance Remotely:

***Hanna Huang (Chair)
Sarah Chen (Vice-Chair)
Anna Lan
Kuo Yang
Mohsin Lari
Pierre Nguyen
Sabrina Sha
Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan***

Commissioners Absent:

***Seonhye “Sonny” Sin
Fang Fang
Satyajeet Dodia***

Staff in Attendance:

***Jeremy Garza – Business Process Consultant, Equity Office
Alejandra Mireles – Community Services Program Coordinator, Equity Office
Akeisha Johnson Smothers – Assistant Director, Austin Public Health***

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first ten speakers signed up prior to the meeting being called to order will each be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes of the COMMISSION's REGULAR MEETING on AUGUST 15th, 2023.
The minutes from the meeting of AUGUST 15th, 2023, were approved on COMMISSIONER HANNAH HUANG's motion, COMMISSIONER PIERRE NGUYEN's second on a 13 – 0 vote. (Absent: *Seonhye "Sonny" Sin and Fang Fang*)

STAFF BRIEFING

2. Austin Public Health (APH) Staff Briefing on AAPI Community & Health Contracts – presented by Laura La Fuente, Assistant Director of APH.
The presentation was made by: AKEISHA JOHNSON SMOTHERS, Assistant Director of APH. AKEISHA JOHNSON SMOTHERS provided Commissioners with information on the translated languages for APH's communication to the public (top three languages that the City of Austin services) and that the goal for such communicated information to be at a 5th grade reading level. AKEISHA JOHNSON SMOTHERS provided Commissioners with information on APH's Community Health Clinic screenings on July 28th and the barriers APH faced with the promotion of such event. AKEISHA JOHNSON SMOTHERS provided Commissioners with the name of programs that APH partners with, in their Social Services Agreements for AAPI. AKEISHA JOHNSON SMOTHERS provided Commissioners that AAPI demographics are tracked quarterly. The Commissioners asked AKEISHA JOHNSON SMOTHERS about APH's need for additional funds for language services. AKEISHA JOHNSON SMOTHERS provided the Commissioners with a response that APH can provide more information in a few months.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Discussion on Commission vacancies & introductions of all commissioners new and old. Special welcome to the newly appointed at-large commissioner Padmini Jambulapati.
Introduction of new At-Large Commissioner PADMINI JAMBULAPATI. Commission discussion on vacancies.
4. Discussion on the FY25 Budget Recommendation Cycle, including report back from the Joint Inclusion Budget Workshop with department leadership on Saturday, September 9th.
Commissioners NAYER SIKDER and HANNA HUANG shared with Commission an update on their attendance of Joint Inclusion Committee's September 9th, FY25 Budget Workshop meeting. Commissioners NAYER SIKDER and HANNA HUANG shared with Commission that they requested a range of dates to know

when CITY OF AUSTIN Departments make recommendations for the FY25 budget, after receiving Boards and Commission Recommendations in February and March. Commissioners NAYER SIKDER and HANNA HUANG shared with Commission the importance of reaching out to CITY COUNCIL members in June/July of 2024 to follow up on the Commission's recommendations.

5. Discussion on leadership vacancies across City Departments. Commissioner HANNAH HUANG shared with Commission information connected to the twenty-three (23) executive leadership vacancies across all CITY OF AUSTIN Departments. Commissioner SARAH CHEN shared with Commission HR cannot recruit/go through the RP process for executive leadership positions until the position is funded in the specific department. Commissioner SARAH CHEN shared with Commission that vacancy in executive leadership positions equals to some decisions not being made because INTERIMS are not able to make them and "ghost work" is created because the INTERIMS are not able to do their own hired position's work. Commissioner SARAH CHEN shared with Commission that the Commission can request a timeline from HR for the twenty-three (23) vacancies in executive leadership of Departments. Commissioner HANNAH HUANG shared with Commission that the Commission can request a CITY OF AUSTIN demographics for the purpose of EPI recommendations on executive leadership hiring.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

6. Discussion and possible action on appointing a primary and alternate representative to the Joint Inclusion Committee.
Commission postponed/tabled this discussion item until October, at the request of the chair, because three Commissioners were absent.
7. Review and discuss the scope of all current working groups and possible action to update membership.
Call for new participation/interest for workgroups. Commissioner SABRINA SHA volunteers to join the budget workgroup. Commissioner PIERRE NGUYEN volunteers join the budget workgroup. Commissioner PADMINI JAMBULAPATI volunteers to join public health/safety workgroup. Commissioner LILY TRIEU moves to approve all volunteer participations; Commissioner HANNA HUANG seconds on a 13 – 0 vote. (Absent: Seonhye "Sonny" Sin and Fang Fang)

WORKING GROUP/COMMITTEE UPDATES

8. Budget Workgroup (*Commissioners Sarah Chen, Hanna Huang, Kymberlie Quong-Charles, Mohsin Lari & Sonny Sin*) – Updates on the FY23-24 Budget Recommendation Process
Upcoming budget workshops: October 18th, October 24th, November 4th. Please try to bring 2 community members. Interpretation services will be provided in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Mandarin. Food will be provided.
9. Community Stakeholder Workgroup (*Commissioners Fang Fang, Kimberlie Quong-Charles, Sabrina Sha, & Mohsin Lari*) – Updates on commissioner vacancies and discussion on the marketing strategy to solicit applications to fill stakeholder vacancies.
With the addition of At-Large Commissioner PADMINI JAMBULAPATI, the workgroup automatically ends.
10. Asian American Resource Center (AARC) Workgroup (*Commissioners Hanna Huang, Kuo Yang, Lily Trieu, Anna Lan, Satyajeet Dodia, Pierre Nguyen, Kirk Yoshida & Vincent Cobalis*) – Updates & discussion on Phase II, staffing & budget, friends of AARC group development.
Commissioner LILY TRIEU and Commissioner HANNAH HUANG updated Commission with attendance concerns (2nd Mondays at 12 pm) for workgroup. Commissioner LILY TRIEU and Commissioner HANNAH HUANG updated Commission with AARC updates of Master Plan/Phase 2 that CITY OF AUSTIN has given the AARC, possibility of the Commission to reach out to CITY OF AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS. Commissioner LILY TRIEU and Commissioner HANNAH HUANG updated Commission about the AARC's 10th Anniversary Celebration on October 27th.
11. Public Health & Safety Workgroup (*Commissioners Lily Trieu, Kuo Yang, Pierre Nguyen, and Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan*).
ANTHONY MAI, Neighborhood Liaison of APD shared how APD provided mental health services/resources to community after Teapoica Lounge shooting. Commissioner KUO YANG asked about the possibility of an APD collaboration with Asian Commerce Association and ANTHONY MAI stated he would gather information from his APD Team and will return to Commission with an update.
12. Joint Inclusion Committee (*Commissioners Hanna Huang, Nayer Sikder, & Sonny Sin*) – General update and discussion on the coalition building work of the JIC.
Commissioner HANNA HUANG shared with Commission that there is a new Vice-Chair, Commissioner RICHARD BONDI of the Joint Inclusion Committee (JIC). Commissioner HANNA HUANG shared with Commission that the Joint Inclusion Committee's Action Plan Workgroup is setting priorities and if anyone from the Commission has a recommendation, reach out to one of the JIC chairs.

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

None.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Nomination of a primary & alternate representative to the JIC

City of Austin's Anti-Hate Education and Outreach Initiative

Intergovernmental Relations – Brie Franco (Tentatively scheduled for November 2023)

Inquiry from Commissioner Fang Fang about Senate Bill 147.

Human Resources Department Staff Report Update (Scheduling TBD) w/ Interim HRD Director, Rebecca Kennedy

Activation of the Joint Cultural Committee (Scheduling TBD)

Austin Asian American – Friday 13th Pilipino Horror movie, *Raging Grace*

American YouthWorks – National Public Landscape, hosting at McKinney Falls State Park, September 23rd 9 am- 1pm

AFSA Asian Family Support Services Fundraiser, October 13th – Joselyn Tao

Chair HANNAH HUANG adjourned the meeting at 7: 39 p.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved at the OCTOBER 17TH, 2023 meeting on COMMISSIONER MOHSIN LARI's motion, COMMISSIONER SARAH CHEN's second on a 10 – 0 unanimous vote. (Absent: *Zahra Shakur Jamal-Hassan, Fang Fang, Satyajeet Dodia, Pierre Nguyen*)